

Martin, Molly

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Sent: Tuesday, June 03, 2014 3:29 PM
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Subject: REMINDER -- Please join us for a meet-and-greet with the EPA Program Evaluation Team

Dear Governing Board members,

This is reminder about our early evening reception for the EPA Program Evaluation Team that will be held on **Tuesday June 10th**. Please note that we are having the reception slightly earlier than originally planned, from **5 to 7 pm** at the Café del Rey in Marina del Rey (4451 Admiralty Way). Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served from 5 to 7pm.

The EPA team will be here to conduct an on-site visit of our program as part of the National Estuary Program Evaluation held once every five years. The primary purpose of the PE process is to help EPA determine whether the Santa Monica Bay NEP program is making adequate progress implementing our Bay Restoration Plan and therefore merit continued funding under §320 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The EPA team is composed of NEP program coordinators from EPA headquarters, Santa Monica Bay NEP program manager from EPA Region 9, and the Director of a sister NEP program from San Juan Bay, Puerto

Rico. During the team's two-day on-site visit, the team will participate in briefing and field trips of wetland restoration, kelp restoration, LID/green infrastructure, and boater education projects that will demonstrate our accomplishments as well as our strengths and challenges in program management. The team would also like to meet with our partners and stakeholders during their visit. We hope the reception will provide them a good opportunity to speak with our members to demonstrate the strength of our partnerships. It will also be a good opportunity for us to strengthen our relationship with EPA, share lessons learned and new ideas, and discuss issues of common interest.

If you have not done so, please **RSVP your attendance** to Scott Valor by this coming **Friday** at svalor@santamonicabay.org or 310-922-2376. We hope you can join us!